EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes

and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided

by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be

submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given in a telephone interview

with Ed Radlo on Friday, November 6, 2009.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please **cancel** the following claims: 9-10, 22-23, 27
Please **amend** the following claims: 1, 8, 18-19, 21, 25

1. (Currently Amended) A system for controlling transmission of data packets through

an information network, the information network having a plurality of user workstations

communicatively coupled to a network access point (NAP), said system comprising:

a Regional Transaction Processor (RTP); and

a data Enabling Device (DED), said DED being disposed at the NAP and

communicatively coupled to the RTP, said DED containing content match

information and operable to:

inspect at least content portions of data packets, each data packet

comprising a content portion, a header, and a trailer,

transiting the NAP;

forward an inspected data packet when information within the

content portion of a data packet is not substantially similar to

content match information; and

when information within the content portion of an inspected data

packet is substantially similar to content match information,

temporarily store the inspected data packet, initiate issuance

of a DED message to a recipient user workstation, and

invoke the RTP to process a transaction; wherein:

the RTP transmits an RTP message to the DED authorizing forwarding of the

data packet only when a result of the transaction indicates that forwarding

is appropriate;

the system further comprises a plurality of DED's, at least one intermediate DED

operable to forward the DED message to a DED closest, within the

information network, to the recipient user workstation;

the plurality of DED's are operable to communicate with each other to

prevent transmitting more than one DED message for the same data

packet within the information network;

processing a transaction based on a user response to the DED message;

and

the RTP transmits one of a Release_Content message and a

Cease_Content message to the DED, based on the result of the

transaction.

8. (Currently Amended) The system as set forth in claim 7 wherein:

a first NAP includes a first DED for generating a DED message; and

~~the system comprises at least one intermediate DED operable to forward the~~
~~DED message to a DED closest, within the information network, to the recipient user~~
~~workstation~~.

18. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling transmission of data packets through
an information network, each data packet comprising a content portion, a header, and a
trailer, the information network having a plurality of user workstations communicatively
coupled to a network access point (NAP), said method comprising:

inspecting at least [[the]] content portions of data packets transiting the NAP with
a data Enabling Device (DED), said DED being disposed at the NAP and
communicatively coupled to a Regional Transaction Processor (RTP), said
DED containing content match information;

forwarding an inspected data packet when information within the content portion
of the inspected data packet is not substantially similar to content match
information; and

when information within the content portion of an inspected data packet is
substantially similar to content match information, temporarily storing the

inspected data packet, issuing a ~~prompt~~ DED message to a recipient user

workstation, and invoking the RTP to process a transaction; wherein:

the information network comprises a plurality of DED's, and the method further

comprises:

at least one intermediate DED operable to forward the DED message to a

DED closest, within the information network, to the recipient user

workstation;

transmitting a message among the plurality of DED's to prevent

transmitting

more than one DED message for the same data packet;

processing the transaction based on a user response to the DED

message;

and

transmitting a Release_Content or Cease_Content message to the DED

based on

whether content was authorized to be downloaded to the workstation as

part of the transaction.

19. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 18, wherein the DED

message is based on control information associated with the content match information.

21. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 18, further comprising processing a transaction based on a response to the <u>DED</u> <u>message</u> received from the recipient user workstation.

25. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 18, further comprising suspending transmission of a data packet through the information network until a user response to the <u>DED</u> <u>message</u> is received.

26. (Currently Amended) A computer-<u>readable storage medium</u> comprising program instructions to implement the method of claim 18.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BARBARA N. BURGESS whose telephone number is (571)272-3996. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00am-4:00pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (571) 272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

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published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Barbara N Burgess/   Barbara N Burgess
Examiner, Art Unit 2457   Examiner
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November 6, 2008

/ARIO ETIENNE/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2457